

NOTES ON *ERICA* IN SOUTH AFRICA

H. A. BAKER

ABSTRACT

Five new species and one new variety of *Erica* from the south western Cape Province are described.

UITTREKSEL

AANTEKENINGE OOR *ERICA* IN SUID-AFRIKA

Vyf nuwe soorte en een nuwe variëteit van *Erica* van af die suid-westelike Kaapprovinsie word beskryf.

Erica toringbergensis H. A. Baker, sp. nov. (Ericaceae-Ericoideae) Ceramus. Frutex erectus, validus, c 1,3 m altus. *Rami* et ramuli erectiusculi, numerosi, tomentosi, ad maturitatem cicatricibus, foliorum delapsorium et glabri. *Folia* 3-nata vel irregularia, aggregata, 3-3,05 mm longa, incurva, imbricata, linearia vel anguste ovata, acutata, sulcata, glabra, juniores margine setosis, brevibus. *Flores* terminales, umbellati, aggregata corrolini; pedunculi 10 mm longi, glabri, atrorubri; bractae remotae, lanceolatae, 2 mm longae. *Sepala* 4 mm longa ovatoacuminata, carinata, aliquantum effusa scariosa, glabra, intricata, similis corollae colorata. *Corolla* 8 mm longa tubularis, inflata, sicca, glabra, atrorosea; lobi 2 mm longi ovati, stellati, concolori sed brunnescens. *Filamenta* filiformia; antherae c 1 mm longae, inclusae, oblongae, laterales, brunneae, appendiculatae, poro fere 1/3 pars lobi; cristae ad basi latae, laceratae, arista terminali longa emittens, totum c 1 mm longum vel plus, album. Ovarium late oblongum, glabrum, stipitatum, stipite 2 mm longo; stylo incluso, stigmate capitellato.

Erect, robust shrub from a, possibly, fire-resistant rootstock, about 1,3 m high. *Branches* and branchlets numerous, erect-spreading, tomentose, the older scarred by the persistent leaf cushions, eventually glabrous. Leaves irregular, 3-nate to 6-nate, 3-3,5 mm long with petiole 1,5-2 mm long, incurved imbricate, linear to narrow-ovate or oblong, acute, sulcate, glabrous, the younger having short caducous setae on the margins, very crowded. Flowers terminal sometimes appearing axillary on very short branchlets, 3-nate to umbellate and very crowded, corolline; peduncles 10 mm long, glabrous, dark red; bracts three, median, lanceolate, 2 mm long. *Sepals* 4 mm long, ovate-acuminate, keeled,

somewhat spreading, intricate, glabrous, scarious, coloured as the corolla. *Corolla* 8 mm long tubular-inflated, dry, glabrous, pale to deep rose-pink; lobes 2 mm long, spreading, ovate, concolorous but turning brown. Filaments filiform; anthers included, lateral, oblong-obtuse, 1 mm long, smooth, light brown, appendiculate, pore c $\frac{1}{3}$ length of the cell; crests pendent with a broad, lacerate base terminated by a long awn-like basal appendage somewhat longer than the basal crest; the whole equal to or slightly longer than the cell, white. *Ovary* oblong, long stipitate, glabrous, the stipe 2 mm long; style included; stigma capitate. Flowering season mid-summer and autumn.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

CAPE—3321 (Ladismith): Below the rocky peak of Toringberg, north of Ladismith (-AD) alt. about 1 829 m, Jan. 1974 *G. Kirsten* 460 (Holotype BOL; Isotypes, NBG, STE, PRE, K, BM). Also collected at Seven Weeks Poort, *Stokoe* 6795 in 1938, and at type locality, 15.12.1956 *E. Esterhuysen* 26767. This taxon clearly belongs to the section *Ceramus* but differs from the few already described by, inter alia, its very unusually shaped anther appendages and its long, narrow, stipe. It appears to be distributed widely at high altitudes on the Klein Swartberg range.

Erica langebergensis H. A. Baker sp. nov. (Ericaceae—Ericoideae) Pyronium. Frutex erectus c 1 524 m altus. *Cauli et Rami* cicutibus foliorum delapsorum notari, ascendens, pubescens. *Folia* 3-nata, 1,5 mm longa, effusa vel ad maturitatem squarrosa, aliquantum incurva, sulcata, glabra, primo seto-ciliata, nudescens, linearia, subulata, vel lanceolata. *Flores* terminales, 3-nati, subcalycini; pedunculi c 1 mm longi, pubescens; bracteae remotae, foliaceae, coloratae, et unique saepe longiora. *Sepals* c 2 mm longa, ad apicem tubi corollae adscendens, ovato-lanceolata, ad apicem carinatum, glabra breviter setosociliata, scariosa, rosea, ad apicem rubescens. *Corolla* c 3 mm longa, anguste cyathiformis, sicca, glabra, atrorosea; lobi erecti; anguste ovati. *Filamenta* graciles, sursum contracta; antherae manifestae, 0,7 mm longae anguste oblongae, cuneatae, subterminalis, muticae. *Ovarium* turbinatum, hispidum; stylo multum exserto; stigmatibus peltaticyathiformis.

Erect shrublet to about 45 cm. *Stem* and *branches* pubescent and with prominent leaf scars. *Leaves* 1,5 mm long, 3-nate, linear-subulate, spreading and at length squarrose, slightly incurved at maturity, sulcate, glabrous, setose-ciliate at first, becoming naked, mucronate. *Flowers* 3-nate, terminal, subcalycine; peduncles about 1 mm long, pubescent; bracts remote, leaf-like but coloured and one often longer. *Sepals* 2,0 mm long, reaching to the top of the corolla tube, ovate-lanceolate, keeled and sulcate-keel-tipped, glabrous, shortly setose-ciliate, scarious, becoming reddish at the apex. *Corolla* about 3 mm

long, narrow-cyathiform, dry, glabrous, deepish rose pink; lobes 1,0 mm long, erect, narrow-ovate. *Filaments* slender, tapering upwards; anthers manifest, 0,7 mm long narrowly oblong-cuneate, sub-terminal, muticous. *Ovary* turbinate, hispid; style long-exserted; stigma peltate-cyathiform.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

CAPE—3320 (Montagu) Leeurivierberg, Langeberg between Cogmans kloof and Swellendam on Southerly slopes, (-CC), alt. c 1 528 m, 28.10.1973 *E. Esterhuysen* 33295 (Holotype, BOL).

This species has been placed in the section *Pyronium* where it seems rightly to belong. In that section its nearest relation appears to be *E. paniculata* L. but there are many differences in structure between them.

Erica omninoglabra H. A. Baker, sp. nov. (Ericaceae—Ericoideae) Ceramia. *Planta* gracilis, diffusa, ubi nonexposita faciens dense caespites, omnino glabra. *Rami* numerosis per graciles. *Folia* 3-nata, c 6 mm longa, effusa, recurva, non imbricata, linearia, acuta, dorsis rotundatis, plus minusve sulcata, ad apices aristatis. *Flora* plerumque terminales, umbellati, sed interdum subaxillares et solitarii in eadem planta, corollini; pedunculi 3,5 mm longi; bractae remotae, 1 mm longae, foliaceae sed albae. *Sepala* c 1,5 mm longa, late ovata, premens, ad apices aristis, longis acuminatis, concava, scariosa. *Corolla* 3,25 mm longa, urceolata, similis sepalis tenue, faucem angustae, sicca, alba vel plus minusve dilute rosea, postremo brunnea; lobi erecti, subobtusae. *Filamenta* late ligulata, ad apices rosea; antherae inclusae, c 0,5 mm longae, ad basibus obtusae, laterales, muticae, poro fere pars dimidio lobi. *Ovarium* turbinatum sessilis; stylo exserto; stigmate simplici.

A slender, flexuous, straggling plant forming dense clumps when not exposed amongst rocks, completely glabrous. *Branches* very slender and intermixed. *Leaves* 3-nate, about 6 mm long, spreading and not imbricate, recurved, linear-acute, round-backed, variously sulcate, from faintly to deeply, tipped with a long arista. *Flowers* mostly terminal and umbellate, the umbels containing up to about 12 flowers and tightly packed, but sometimes sub-axillary on the same plant and then solitary in the leaf axils, corolline; peduncles 3,5 mm long; bracts median, 1 mm long, leaf-like but white. *Sepals* about 1,5 mm long, broad-ovate with a long, acuminate keel-tip or arista as have the leaves, thin in texture, scarious, concave, clasping the corolla. *Corolla* 3,25 mm long, urceolate, thin in texture, somewhat narrowed at the throat, white, tinged pink, becoming brown after maturity; lobes erect, somewhat crenate towards the apex, subobtuse. *Filaments* broad-ligulate, pinkish at the apex; anthers included, oblong, obtuse below, dorsically basifixed, muticous, about 0,5 mm long; pore about half the length of the cell; ovary turbinate, sessile; style long exserted; stigma simple.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

CAPE—3320 (Montagu) Swellendam Mt. on slopes en route to Goedeloof Point (Misty Point), (–CD) alt. 1 380 m. October 1973 *Esterhuysen 33404* (Holotype, BOL).

This taxon would appear to be best placed in section *Ceramia* owing to its habit, but is not similar to any species therein described or in any other section.

***Erica pillarkopensis* H. A. Baker sp. nov. (Ericaceae—Ericoideae) Melastemon.**

Fruticulus erectus, ligneus ad c 1 m altus. Rami numerosi pubescens, glabrescens. *Folia* 4–5 m longa, 3-nata, late linearia, effusa sed squarroscent, praeter jumbores vix vel non imbricata, varie sulcata, pubescens, ciliata pilis longiusculis, glandulosis. *Flores* pro parte maxima terminales ad apices ramulorum umbellati, sed interdum laterales et singulares in planta eadem, subcalycini, racemosi; pedunculi 4–5 mm longi, pubescentes, colorati; bractee basales, parvulae, inconspicuae. *Sepala* 1–5 mm longa, adpressa, late ovata vel orbicularia, apicibus minute carinatis, pro parte maxima glabra sed ad marginem parce puberula, longa ciliata, scariosa, alba vel rosea. *Corolla* 3,0 mm longa, late obconica, sicca, glabra, atrorosea; lobi 1,0 mm longi, continui, vel leviter effusi, sepala similia formata sed oltusa et valde conspicua, saepe plus minusve alba et quam tubus dilutior. *Filamenta* ligulata, ad apicibus brunnea; antherae 1,0 mm longae, laterales, oblongae, cuneatae, supra porum productae, scabridae, minute aristis; artistae ad filamentum adnatum, spicibus libris, effusis. *Ovarium* turbinatum, glabrum, viride; stylo longo exerto; stigmate peltatocapitellato, parvo.

Erect, woody shrublet to about 1 m high. *Branches* numerous, pubescent, glabrescent. *Leaves* 3-nate, 4–5 mm long, broadly linear, spreading and becoming squarrose and, except the younger, barely or not imbricate, variously sulcate, pubescent, ciliate with longish gland-tipped hairs. *Flowers* essentially terminal at the ends of numerous branchlets but, sometimes, apparently axillary and solitary in the leaf axils on the same plant; the terminal ones umbellate, the whole making a compact and showy raceme, calycine; peduncles 4–5 mm long pubescent, coloured; bracts basal, very small and inconspicuous. *Sepals* 1–5 mm long, adpressed, broad ovate to orbicular, minutely keel-tipped, mostly glabrous but with a few short hairs near the margins, long-ciliate, scarios, white to rose coloured. *Corolla* 3,0 mm long, broad obconical, dry, glabrous, dark rose; lobes 1,0 mm long, continuous, slightly spreading, shaped like the sepals and very conspicuous, often whitish and paler than the tube. *Filaments* ligulate, brown at the apex; anthers manifest 1,0 mm long, long, oblong cuneate, lateral, produced above the pore, scabrid, minutely awned; the awns adnate to the

filament with small, free-spreading points. Ovary turbinate glabrous, green; style long-exserted; stigma peltate-capitate, small.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

CAPE—3419 (Caledon): Pillarkop, Riviersondereinde Mts. (–BB) near Lindeshof on scree and steep rock slopes, alt. 1 220–1 524 m *Esterhuysen 33343* (Holotype, BOL).

This taxon does not correspond with any other described species. Owing to its distinctly produced anther cells above the pores it is placed in the section *Melastemon*.

Erica winteri H. A. Baker, sp. nov. (Ericaceae—Ericoideae) Pachysa.

Fruticulus erectus ad c. 50 cm altus, caulis singularis, pubescens. *Rami* sparsi, effusi, pubescens. *Folia* 3-nata, 3,5 mm longa, interdum irregulares, lanceolata, acuta, sulcata, glabra, primo imbricata, ad margines glandis parvis. *Flores* terminales, solitariae, corollini, pro parte maxima cernui; pedunculi 12 mm longi, glanduliferiviscidi; bractae remotae, ovatae, ad sepalis similis sed parvis. *Sepala* 4 mm longa, adpressa vel effusa, ovata, diaphana, viscida, alba, glabra. *Corolla* 9 mm longa, globosourceolata, diaphana, valde viscida, glabra, alba, lobis erectis, 3 mm longis, latis, obtusis. *Filamenta* ligulata ad apices decressens; antherae 2 mm longae, inclusae, terminales, oblongae, lunatae, bipartitae, atrobrunnae, scabridae, poro fere pars dimidio lobi, appendiculatae; aristae 1 mm longae, subulatae, scabridae. *Ovarium* turbinatum, glabrum; stylo incluso; stigmate capitato.

Erect shrublet to about 50 cm high with a single, pubescent stem. *Branches*, sparse and laxly arranged, pubescent. *Leaves* 3-nate, somewhat irregular lanceolate, 3,5 mm long, erect-spreading, imbricate at first, acute, sulcate, glabrous, with small marginal glands. *Flowers* terminal on very short branchlets, solitary, corolline, mostly cernuous; peduncles 12 mm long, glandular-viscid; bracts remote, ovate, as sepals, but smaller. *Sepals* 4 mm long, adpressed to spreading, ovate, diaphanous, viscid, white. *Corolla* 9 mm long, globose-urceolate, diaphanous, viscid, white, glabrous; lobes erect, 3 mm long, wide, oblique. *Filaments* ligulate, narrowing slightly upwards; anthers included, 2 mm long, terminal, crescent-shaped, scabridulous, bipartite, dark brown, appendiculate; pore one half the length of the cell; awns 1 mm long, subulate, very rough; style included to just manifest; stigma capitate.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

CAPE—3321 (Ladismith), Langeberg Mts., Riversdale (–CD) altitude c. 914 m, 7.10.1974 J. H. S. *Winter 20* (Holotype, NBG; Isotypes, STE, PRE).

This taxon has been collected several times before and determined as being a white form of *E. ardens* Andr. but, on close examination by the author, it is

found to be only superficially like that species. A comparative table shows that there are many differences especially in the shape of the anthers and their appendages, the diaphanous sepals and corolla and the form of the plant which, in the case of *E. winteri* is laxly spreading, quite unlike *E. ardens*. Many of the collections in the herbaria have been found at flower shows in which case there is no proper record of the locality. When these differences are taken into consideration *E. winteri* would appear to be worthy of specific rank.

This species has been named in honour of Mr. J. H. S. Winter, the curator at the National Botanic Gardens, Kirstenbosch for the praiseworthy work he is doing there in growing ericas from seed and cuttings and planting them out in the ideal conditions that have been made for their growth in an environment, as natural as can be created in the Gardens.

***Erica intervallaris* Salisbury var. *trifolia* H. A. Baker var. nov.**

A forma typica ita differt. *Rami* glabri. *Folia* 3-nata, linearia, subulata, 4 mm longa. Flores pro parte maxima 3-nata, interdum umbellata; pedunculi 3 mm longi. *Sepala* ovato-lanceolata, apicibus carinatis, ciliata, scariosa. *Corolla* tubularicampanulata, glabra, roseola. *Antherae* plus minusve similes sed aristae subcristatae, non graciles.

As the type with the following differences: *Branches* glabrous. *Leaves* 3-nate, linear-subulate. *Flowers* mostly 3-nate but sometimes umbellate; peduncle 3 mm long. *Sepals* ovate-lanceolate, keel-tipped, ciliate, scarious. *Corolla* tubular-campanulate, glabrous, pale rose. *Anthers* more or less similar but the aristae subcristate, not slender.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

CAPE—3418 (Simonstown): in wet places near the banks of the Palmiet River by the road bridge at low altitudes (-BD), 3.11.1964 H. A. Baker 2190 (Holo-type, BOL).